



Isiah Leggett, County Executive  
Timothy Firestone, Chief Administrator Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director  
Arthur Edmunds, UCAB Chair

**February 9, 2018**

**Upcounty Quality of Life Committee Meeting**  
**Monday, February 12 7:00pm-9:00pm**  
**Kramer Upcounty Regional Services Center, Suite 1100**  
**12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown**

**Topic: "Thoughts from Upcounty Chambers of Commerce"**

*Invited Guests: Marilyn Balcombe, President, Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce*  
*Ann Meyer, Clarksburg Chamber of Commerce*  
*Gail Lee, President, Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce*

*All board and committee meetings are open to the public!*

**Inclement Weather Policy for Boards, Committees and Commissions:**

If Montgomery County Public Schools open late, BCC morning meetings are cancelled; if schools close early, or if afternoon or evening activities are cancelled, BCC afternoon and evening meetings are cancelled; if schools are closed all day, all BCC meetings for that day and evening will be cancelled.

*Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible, but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If these or other services or aids are needed to participate in this activity, please call 240-777-8040 or email a request to [catherine.matthews@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:catherine.matthews@montgomerycountymd.gov).*

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**Live Discussion with County Executive Ike Leggett**

**Thursday, February 15 1:00pm-2:00m**

This online interactive forum allows residents in Montgomery County to send questions directly to County Executive Isiah Leggett. You may submit questions anytime. Answered questions will be available at the beginning of the live session and selected questions will be answered during the scheduled discussion time.

**[Submit Your Question](#)**

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**Leggett Announces County Suit Against 14 Opioid Companies**

**[http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press\\_Detail.aspx?Item\\_ID=21829](http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=21829)**

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## Planning Board to Hold Public Hearing for Master Plan of Highways and Transitways

Thursday, February 15 6:00pm-8:00pm  
8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring

The [Montgomery County Planning Board](#) will hold a public hearing on the Master Plan of Highways and Transitways. Transportation planners are reviewing and revising the county's Master Plan of Highways and Transitways, an effort that classifies each Montgomery County road in the transportation network, in the first comprehensive update to the plan since 1955.

The plan updates the road network with current classifications, incorporate road changes, and aligns it with the County Road Code, which was comprehensively updated in 2007 and in 2014. The update consolidates all roadway amendments that have been approved as part of Master Plans as well as limited functional Master Plan of Highways amendments. The new plan also includes transitways, rail stations, and other transit centers. To reflect the greater scope of the plans, the name has been changed to the Master Plan of Highways and Transitways.

Community residents interested in testifying at the meeting or submitting written comments should consult the [Planning Board agenda](#) for details. View the [Public Hearing Draft of the Master Plan of Highways and Transitways](#) online and [sign up to testify online](#).

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### A Celebration of Black History

Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett was honored this week at the County's [Black History](#) Celebration at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre in Rockville. The theme for this year's celebration is, "African Americans in Times of War." The theme commemorates the centennial of the end of the First World War in 1918, and explores the complex meanings and implications of this international struggle and its aftermath. Leggett was a captain in the Army during the Vietnam war where he earned the Bronze Star Medal, the Vietnam Service, and Vietnam Campaign Medals. View [more photos from Flickr](#). To learn more about Black History, visit <https://africanamericanhistorymonth.gov>

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### Council letter appeals to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority to eliminate Red Line turnbacks

*Council troubled to hear that WMATA has backed away from its commitment to eliminate the Red Line turnback at the Grosvenor-Strathmore station.*

The Montgomery County Council sent a letter to Paul J. Wiedefeld, General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), asking WMATA to keep its commitment to eliminate the Red Line turnback at the Grosvenor-Strathmore station by July 1, 2018. WMATA has backed away from this commitment that was part of a WMATA Board of Directors resolution. The Council also asked Mr. Wiedefeld to eliminate the turnback at the Silver Spring station on the east side of the Red Line when new rail cars are acquired.

To read the letter, go to [https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press\\_Detail.aspx?Item\\_ID=21826](https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=21826)

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## Montgomery Serves Awards

Nominations are now open for the [Montgomery Serves Awards](#), Montgomery County's highest honor for volunteer service. This annual awards program, coordinated by the Montgomery County Volunteer Center, recognizes volunteer efforts in the following categories:

- \* Neal Potter Path of Achievement Award, for lifetime service by residents age 60 and up
- \* Volunteer of the Year Award, for extraordinary volunteerism by an individual in 2017
- \* Youth Volunteer of the Year Award, for remarkable volunteers age 18 and younger
- \* Volunteer Group of the Year Award, for a group's noteworthy volunteer efforts
- \* Business Volunteer of the Year Award, for outstanding community service by a corporation

Award recipients will be honored at a gala ceremony attended by County and State dignitaries the evening of Monday, April 23, at Imagination Stage in Bethesda. To reserve free tickets, visit <https://montgomeryservesawards2018.eventbrite.com>.

For additional information, email the [Montgomery County Volunteer Center](#) or call 240-777-2600 between 9am and 5pm, Monday through Friday.

**Online nomination forms are due no later than Friday, February 23, at 5pm!**

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## Lunar New Year Celebration

Montgomery County's rich cultural diversity was highlighted recently at the 2018 Lunar New Year celebration at the Potomac Community Recreation Center. County Executive Ike Leggett, along with other county and state officials, welcomed hundreds of visitors to this year's event, which marks the Year of the Dog. The celebration included cultural booths, dances, food, music and more. [See more photos from flickr](#).

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## Growing Government Leaders!

Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett spoke with third-graders at [Germantown's Clopper Mill Elementary School](#). The students are studying government and have been inspired by the work of Mr. Leggett, so they wanted to learn more about his role in, and views of, government. [See more photos from Flickr](#).

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## Claim Your EITC - Get All Your Money!

IRS certified volunteers and their partners are now helping eligible county residents to complete their 2017 tax returns through **FREE VITA** (earning \$54,000 or less) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly programs. To make an appointment and learn about walk in sites, visit [montgomerycountymd.gov/CASHBACK](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/CASHBACK) or call 311.

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## *Montgomery County Planning Department's Winter Speaker Series*



### ***Session #3: Placemaking*** **February 28 6:00pm-7:30pm** **Planning Department Auditorium** **8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring**

Guest Speaker **Ethan Kent**, Senior Vice President of [Project for Public Spaces](#) (PPS) in New York City, has traveled to more than 800 cities and 55 countries to advance the cause of placemaking and public spaces. He will speak about placemaking as a strategy for economic development in the suburbs.

The series, titled **The Economic Future of the Suburbs: Infill, Commerce, Placemaking**, examines the shift away from sprawling, car-centric places to more walkable, mixed-use and urban-style communities.

The presentations focus on the changes that are occurring in the suburbs in response to market conditions: infill housing instead of single-family homes; office building conversions into residential units; the influence of digital technology on retail and commerce; and placemaking as a strategy for economic development.

The Winter Speaker Series is free and open to the public and planning professionals, and each session will include question and answer discussions. Credit for certification maintenance (CM) for members of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) attending the series is pending.

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**For more News from the Office of the County Executive, visit:** <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/news>

**For other news and meeting agendas, visit:**

**County Council** [http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/press\\_List.aspx?id=01](http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/press_List.aspx?id=01)

**Planning Board** [http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/departments/news\\_releases](http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/departments/news_releases)

**Also check out the latest from:**

Department of Public Libraries <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library>

Department of Recreation <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/rectmpl.aspx?url=/content/rec/index.asp>

Department of Transportation <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot/index.html>

Department of Environmental Protection <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/deatmpl.aspx?url=/content/dep/dephome/index.asp>

Department of Permitting Services <http://permitting.montgomerycountymd.gov/DPS/general/Home.aspx>

Montgomery County Volunteer Center <http://www.montgomeryserves.org>

Office of Community Partnerships <http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs100/1102184431012/archive/1117215431562.html>

Commission for Women <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw/index.html>

Parks Department <http://www.montgomeryparks.org>

Planning Department <http://montgomeryplanning.org>